

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2364

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many parallel telephone exchanges are operating in the country;
- (b) if so the details thereof alongwith the reasons for their unchecked operation;
- (c) whether the officials of the Department of Telecommunications are involved therein; and
- (d) the quantum of revenue loss caused by these parallel telephone exchanges in the country every year during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Some illegal telephone exchanges have been found to be operating in the country.
- (b) 300 such exchanges have been found to be operating during the period from 2004-05 to 2006-07.

Break up of the cases is as below:

2004-2005 - 80
2005-2006 - 170
2006-2007 - 50

All these exchanges have been unearthed, raided and closed. Vigilance Telecom Monitoring Units of Department of Telecommunications, with the help of law enforcement agencies constantly endeavor to curb such grey market telecom setups in the country.

- (c) No official of the Department of Telecommunications was found involved.
- (d) Quantum of notional revenue loss due to 'parallel telephone exchanges' is assessed to be

2004-2005 - Rs. 73,72,03,448
2005-2006 - Rs.116,29,68,369
2006-2007 - Rs. 10,35,66,321